

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
ANDERSON TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT
SEPTEMBER 11, 2008**

Nadine Gelter, President, called the regular meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Anderson Township Park District to order at 6:33 pm at the Anderson Township Park District, Juilfs Park Office, 8249 Clough Pike. Present were Board Members: Dale Bartholomew, Duffy Beischel, Lisa Klancher and Mark Bissinger. Also present were: Ken Kushner, Executive Director; Emily Armstrong, Assistant Director; Bailey Martella, Financial Officer/Board Clerk; Mike Smith, Operations Manager; Scott Lahman, Recreation Manager; and Sheila Fehn, Office Manager.

GUESTS: Lisa Wakeland, Community Press and John Gruenberg, Men's Senior League Representative.

AGENDA: Mr. Beischel moved the Board approve the Agenda. Mrs. Klancher seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Beischel, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Bartholomew, Mrs. Klancher, and Mr. Bissinger. (5), No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

Mr. John Gruenberg identified himself as an Anderson resident, the representative for the Senior Men's Baseball League and the newly formed 18 and older baseball league representative. He stated that his league(s) are comprised of approximately 70-75% Anderson Township residents. He stated that he had three (3) issues to discuss with the Board:

1. Mr. Gruenberg expressed concern about two fields at Riverside Park with pitching mounds. The mounds are, in his opinion, unsafe and in need of repair because of the hole in front of the mound made by the pitcher's during game play. He indicated he had spoken to Steve Sublett, Operations Technician and Ken Kushner concerning this issue many times. He stated he has given Mr. Kushner elaborate instructions for the repair of the mounds using clay bricks. Mr. Kushner stated that while this method would work, this type of repair would only be effective if the mound were watered daily year-round, which is not financially feasible in our operation. Mr. Kushner also noted that repairs have been made to the mounds but none of the repairs are effective on a long-term basis. He further stated Mr. Gruenberg's league is not the only one playing on the fields therefore it is very difficult to keep up with the repair since most teams do not "repair" the fields after their games. Mr. Gruenberg advised the Board that his league works on the fields during their games and would help work on the fields at other times if necessary. Mr. Gruenberg also asked if there had been any complaints from other leagues. Mrs. Sheila Fehn, Office Manager, stated no other leagues had indicated any problem concerning the fields with mounds. Mr. Kushner stated the district has taken Mr. Gruenberg's complaints seriously and the Operations staff has worked and will continue to work very hard to get all fields playable for all leagues. The Board asked Mr. Gruenberg to be patient and allow Mr. Kushner time to investigate, over the winter, what other options might be available. Mr. Beischel suggested Mr. Kushner contact the Cincinnati Reds Community Fund, to find out if they know of a remedy for this problem that is not extraordinarily expensive and also not as time consuming as daily watering.
2. Mr. Gruenberg's second issue is allowing younger players on larger fields. He indicated that the closer pitching rubber creates an additional hole in the turf. It was explained to

him that the leagues, not the park district, actually assigns their individual teams to the fields. Mrs. Fehn stated it is not uncommon to have a younger team on an adjacent larger field if the same person is coaching both teams.

3. Mr. Guenberg's last issue concerned the District purchasing policy. He stated, in his opinion, the park district, as a public entity, should always buy from Anderson businesses, even if the cost is higher. Mr. Kushner explained that while the district certainly tries to purchase locally it is not always possible and that in an effort to be fiscally responsible the district always tries to purchase the best product for the best price. The Board reiterated its directive to purchase from Anderson businesses whenever feasible. However, if a project or purchasing contract is "put out to bid" the District must accept the "lowest and best" bid regardless of where the business is located.

The Board thanked Mr. Gruenberg for coming to the meeting with his concerns and comments and assured him Mr. Kushner would be in contact with him.

OLD BUSINESS

Riverside Park Riverbank Project: The Board congratulated Mr. Kushner and the Operation's staff on a great job with the Riverbank repair and noted the project will be completed for considerably less cost than anticipated.

Johnson Park:

House: Mr. Kushner stated that the staff has been working on repairs to the sunroom and reported a painter has been hired to paint the exterior trim and doors this fall.

Small Horse Barn: Mr. Kushner gave the Board a letter from J.D. Stein, Consulting Engineers, indicating that in his opinion, the barn is not suitable for any type of authentic restorations without totally tearing down the entire structure and rebuilding it using whatever can be salvaged accompanied by new materials which imitate the original. He continued by saying the expense of such a project would not appear to be commensurate with the benefit. Furthermore, it is also his opinion that the repairs to bring the barn up to current life safety codes for non agricultural stable use would require demolishing a good deal of the structure. Therefore, it is his recommendation that the park district consider demolishing the structure and salvage some of the "historic" posts and frame structure with its mortise and tenon joints for incorporation into the public areas of a new barn, designed to be safe under current building and life safety codes. .

Mr. Bissinger asked that Mr. Kushner seek an historic evaluation to determine if the barn has any "significant" historic value before the Board determines what the future of the barn. Mr. Kushner stated he would contact the Historical Society and Jim Fehring, Human Nature to try and determine its value. Mrs. Gelter stated that the district should investigate the many grant opportunities for barn restoration. Mr. Kushner stated staff would do that once the future plan for this park is determined.

Johnson Park Cell Tower: Mr. Kushner indicated the cell tower project status has not changed.

New Accounting System: Mrs. Martella gave the Board the Indemnification, for her personal liability pertaining to the UAN program and equipment, as prepared by the District's Counsel,

Mr. Tom Luebbers. Mr. Bissinger stated that the Indemnification was not specific enough and asked Mrs. Martella to have Mr. Luebbers contact him to discuss the changes. Mr. Beischel moved to approve entering into the contract to purchase the United Auditor's Network program and equipment contingent upon the acceptable Indemnification for Mrs. Martella and authorized Mr. Kushner to sign all associated paperwork. Mr. Bissinger seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Bissinger, Mr. Beischel, Mrs. Klancher and Mrs. Gelter. (4); No: Mr. Bartholomew (1). The motion carried.

Heritage Center: Mr. Kushner reported the Gazebo for the Heritage Center has been ordered. He also indicated the remaining Township balance for the Heritage Center repairs and upgrades would be \$1,053.75. Hopefully this amount will cover the rear doors that are in dire need of being replaced.

Broadwell Woods: Mr. Kushner stated that nothing new has developed on Broadwell Woods.

Levy Discussion: Mr. Kushner and Mrs. Armstrong reported the Levy account is in need of additional funds to cover the past participant mailing and the Board of Elections absentee voters mailing. A discussion took place as to the importance of sending a Vote Yes! postcard mailing funded by the levy account, as opposed to an educational piece the park district could mail. It was the consensus of the Board that a Vote Yes! postcard is very important and should be the direction of choice.

2008 Anderson Days Report: The Board reviewed the draft report for Greater Anderson Days. Mrs. Martella indicated a few bills had just arrived and that a final report should be ready by the October meeting.

WebTrac Update: Mr. Kushner advised the Board that there is no update to the WebTrac purchase.

NEW BUSINESS:

Staff Changes: Mrs. Klancher moved for the Board to approve staff's recommendation to accept the resignation of **Operations employee:** Jeff Wilzbach and the hiring of **Concession employee:** James Racer. Mr. Bartholomew seconded the motion. Voting; Yes; Mr. Bissinger, Mr. Beischel, Mrs. Gelter, Mrs. Klancher and Mr. Bartholomew, (5), No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

Filming in the Parks: Mrs. Armstrong asked the Board to approve a position, and/or create a policy for commercial filming in the parks. After a discussion it was the consensus of the Board to ask Counsel for an opinion of the legality of precluding filming in the parks. Mrs. Armstrong stated she would contact Mr. Luebbers and bring a recommendation back to the Board.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

Approval of Purchase Orders: Mr. Bartholomew moved for the Board to approve the following authorized Purchase Orders:

Advanced Turf Solutions	Fertilizer	\$7,507.20
Anderson Township Government	Cruiser	\$5,200.00

Mr. Bissinger seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Beischel, Mr. Bissinger, Mr. Bartholomew, Mrs. Gelter, Mrs. Klancher (5), No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

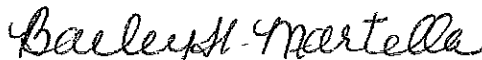
Fundraising & Grant Activity: Mrs. Klancher stated that she had researched and found the Martin Marietta Fund as a possible funding source for grant projects. Mr. Kushner said he would look into their application process and the type of projects they have traditionally funded.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND AUTHORIZATION OF EXPENDITURES: Mr. Bartholomew moved for the Board to approve the **August 2008 Financial Reports and Authorized the Expenditures** as presented by Mrs. Martella. Mr. Beischel seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Bissinger, Mr. Beischel, Mr. Bartholomew, Mrs. Klancher and Mrs. Gelter. (5); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Beischel moved to approve the minutes of the **August 14, 2008 Regular Meeting**. Mrs. Klancher seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Beischel, Mrs. Klancher, Mr. Bissinger and Mrs. Gelter (4) No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

At 8:40 p.m. there being no further business to be brought before this Board, Mr. Beischel moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Klancher seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Bissinger, Mr. Bartholomew, Mrs. Klancher and Mr. Beischel. (4) No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

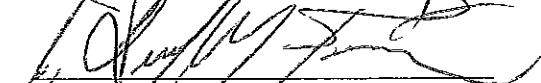
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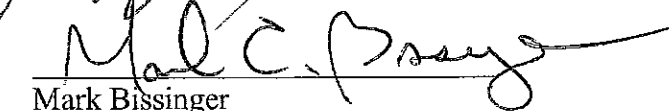
Bailey H. Martella
Financial Officer/Board Clerk



Dale Bartholomew



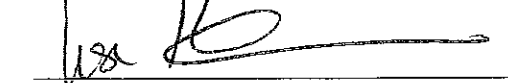
Duffy Beischel



Mark Bissinger



Nadine Gelter



Lisa Klancher